

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399

Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253

www.iccmarydel.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday 9:30-12noon, Closed Wednesdays

Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.

January 20, 2018 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Weekday Eucharist

Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Holydays of Obligation

As announced in the bulletin

Reconciliation

After the Sunday morning Masses,
Thursday evening 6:30pm

And by appointment at any reasonable time

Pastoral Care and Liturgy

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Timothy J. Brady, Parochial Vicar
Father Mano Salla, Parochial Vicar

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.
Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of
financial assistance, please call

St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702

The Sacraments

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children's first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life**.

Dear Parishioners,

Well, central Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland experienced their first snow storm of the New Year this past weekend. It was not a monumental snowstorm, but it was enough to close our Parish schools and all area schools for the day. And so, now, with the depletion of bread, milk, and toilet paper from our supermarkets, with roads covered with more salt than a Philadelphia pretzel, and with people singing "Baby, It's Cold Outside" (while dodging the political-correctness police), we know that winter is really and truly here. December gave us some mild days, but, dang, January means business!

Many people will lament that snow can be annoying and inconveniencing, yet, at the same time, it is also beautiful. It is also worth noting that the Scriptures are not silent on the issue of snow. The Bible has a blizzard

of references to that white stuff. So, while the weather outside is frightful, the Scriptures are so delightful (and insightful). And so, here are a flurry of scripture texts regarding snow and some of my, I hope not too flakey, thoughts about them:

In Daniel (3:67-70), the Prophet tells us about three young men (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) being cast into a fiery furnace by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, for refusing to bow down to the king's image. While these three young men are baking in the heat of the furnace, they praise God saying, "*Cold and chill, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever... Frost and chill, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever. Ice and snow bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever.*" The young men were spared death in the furnace by the power of God. So, while you may not like ice and snow, this scripture

reminds us that its beauty and presence serve to bless the Lord. I imagine that as some of you find yourself slipping on ice and driving on snowy roads this winter, you may also be having a conversation with God on this matter, but it might not be words of blessing. If that's the case, think of the three young men in the furnace, and warm up to words of praise instead.

The Book of Proverbs (25:10) informs us that *“Like the coolness of snow in the heat of the harvest is a faithful messenger for the one who sends him. He refreshes the soul of his master.”* From the “holy-Hannah-it’s-freezing” cold of last Monday night and Tuesday, and the several inches of white stuff we have all learned about “coolness” – and not in the 1970s Fonzie sense of the world. But despite the cold and the snow we carry on, we continue! The weather does its thing, and we do ours. In the midst of the coldest winter, our hearts burn with the love of God – giving us, dare I say, “Happy Days” even in the midst of rough weather.

From the Book of the long-suffering Job (5:5-7, in part) we hear, *“He does great things beyond our knowing; wonders past our searching out. For he says to the snow, ‘fall to the earth’... He shuts up all mankind indoors.”* Teachers and students take note: this passage shows the Divine origin of snow days: God makes it snow (“He says to the snow, ‘fall to the earth’”), kids can’t go to school (“he shuts up all mankind indoors”). So, when you see those “School Closed” listings on WBOC, God gives us those times – those oft unexpected times – for us to be able to spend time with our families or just a quiet day inside.

In a similar vein, the book of Proverbs 31:10,21 advises us that, *“When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. She fears not the snow for her household; all her charges are doubly clothed.”* To all you husbands with wives who are moms of school-aged kids, here’s a scripture that puts all those psycho-crazy snowy mornings into perspective. That worthy wife “fears not the snow” she deals with it, firmly and directly!

The Book of Wisdom (16:22), in its sagaciousness, notes, *“Yet snow and ice withstood fire and were not melted, that they might know that their enemies' fruits were consumed by a fire that blazed in the hail and flashed lightning in the rain.”* Each year, I find streets in Dover, and roads out near Marydel that this passage brings to mind. You know the roads I’m talking about. Everywhere else the snow and ice are gone, and yet, you turn down that one street, and find that you are in the land that time forgot! It looks like the ice age hit there, and the snow and the ice abide! The point of the story: The gifts of God are indestructible against the forces that infernal, Devilish enemy. He gives us the ability to prevail by his grace!

Finally, in the First Book of Maccabees (13:21-22), *“The men in the citadel sent messengers to Trypho, urging him to come to them by way of the desert, and to send them provisions. Although Trypho got all his cavalry ready to go, there was a heavy fall of snow that night, and he could not go. So, he left for Gilead.”* Those poor guys in the citadel! Even with the efforts of Trypho, they were not able to get their bread and milk (and toilet paper)! They didn’t stop at the Redners beforehand, and thus they weren’t prepared. So, next time the sky is a “Hazy shade of winter,” (kudos to Simon and Garfunkel), and 1/8 of an inch of snow is predicted, and you see the crazy shopping line at Redners, consider that maybe those people read this passage of scripture and are playing it safe. As I write this column on Tuesday afternoon, January 15, the weather report for the coming weekend looks snowy and (in the words of rock band Foreigner) “Cold as Ice.” If this is correct, and the snow starts falling like World Series ratings when there’s no east coast team involved, then it might just be a good time to ponder these scriptures, which are both timeless and timely. It might be a good time to recall God’s hand in the very beauty of creation, and in our daily lives. Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! (And if it doesn’t snow, blame the Weather Channel, but praise God anyway!)

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, January 20

8:30 Erma Neudecker

11:00 JoAnn Baffa

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Thursday, January 24

7pm Misa For the People

Sunday, January 27

8:30 Christina Godfrey

11:00 Peggy Clifford

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: \$ 2191.00

St. Vincent DePaul: \$ 497.00

Second Collection Today: Supplementary

Your continued support of the work of your Church is much needed and appreciated

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Altar Servers

January 27

8:30am Mass – Anna Clancy, Averi Locke

11am Mass – William Meyer

Spanish Misa 1pm – Darly Ortega, Brittany Cuin

Lectors

January 27

8:30am Mass – Karen Cairns

11am Mass – Donna King

Spanish Misa 1pm – Froilán Berdúo, Ada Escalante

Eucharistic Ministers

January 27

8:30am Mass – Lani Small, Gerry Godfrey

11am Mass – Frank & Joyce Cristiano

Spanish Misa 1pm – A. Velásquez, Epifanio Morales, Guadalupe Morales, Adrián Miranda, C. Miguel

Collection Counters

Jan 20 Tom & Mary McGowan

Jan 27 Robin & Paul Engstenberg

Feb 3 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel

Church Cleaning Crew

Enero 25, 2019 Grupo #7

Ovidio Roblero, Natalina Capistran, Fausto Ortiz, Everilda Pérez, Amanda Salas, Ashley Salas

Febrero 1, 2019 Grupo # 8

Rafael Morales, Marcos González, Osvaldo Miranda Eleazar Santizo, Reyna Morales

CATHOLICISM

Faith Formation Program

Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith

With creator and host **Bishop Robert Barron**, you will learn *what* Catholics believe and *why* while being immersed in the art, architecture, literature, beliefs and practices of the Catholic tradition. The Catholicism Faith Formation Program brings the beauty, goodness and truth of the Church to life so that you can better understand and share your faith.

What: 10+ sessions/10 episodes

When: Begins Monday, January 28th, 6:30pm**

Where: Immaculate Conception Hall

Registration: \$10, call 410-482-8939 or email dre@iccmaryl.org

Registrations for the Catholicism series can be found at the back of the church, office, online and DRE desk.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Jan 20 9:40am – SRE Classes in Classrooms

Sun, Jan 20 9:30 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sun, Jan 20 3pm-9pm – Hal in use

Thur, Jan 24 7pm – Misa

Fri, Jan 25 7pm – Band Practice

Fri, Jan 25 7pm – RCIA

Fri, Jan 25 7pm – Vigilia

Sat, Jan 26 All Day – Retiro- salón



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – Meeting Jan 20th and 27th

between Masses in the Hall

Do you know how to crochet, loom knit, knit, quilt or weave? Would you like to learn how to do these crafts or teach

them to others? We would like to start a prayer shawl ministry in our parish. We would like to gather together in community to support others with a tangible sign of our prayers and support- with prayer shawls, lap afghans and scarves.

Please join us in the parish hall TODAY Sunday, January 20th and /or NEXT Sunday January 27th between Masses. If you would like to come, or want to be involved but can't come to our meeting, please contact Peggy O'Meara at joyfulnoise@comcast.net, or please leave a message at 302-653-1006, and I will get back to you. Thanks!

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Parenting Pointer –

Each member of the human family is important and connected. Remember today the value of each life, born/unborn, neighbor/refugee, friend - even enemy. Let us march to protect all human lives.

Marriage Moment –

Which Gift of the Spirit is your beloved strongest in: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, mighty deeds, prophecy, discernment, communication, understanding...? Recognize these strengths.

Knights of Columbus



Next meeting

Tues, January 22

7pm Meeting

in the Knights Hall

All members are encouraged to attend. Membership is open to men 18

years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. For more info, contact Grand Knight, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or kelly29@comcast.net. Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education
9:40am-10:50am

Registrations for the 2019-2020 School of Religious Education year will be out in early February, they are available online now.



Sacramental Prep:

1st Communion Prep: Tuesday, January 29th at 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Parish hall.

Confirmation Prep: Sun, February 3rd 11am in Hall.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: Grace is God's free gift to us.

Question for Children: What is one special gift that God has given to you to share with your friends or classmates?

Question for Youth: Jesus got his start in ministry through the urging of his mother. Who urges you to pray, go to Church, and do good works?

Question for Adults: God fills each of us with grace (miracles) and gifts, what is one grace (miracle) or gift that you have shared with your family?

2^o domingo en tiempo ordinario

Tema: La gracias es el don que nos otorga Dios.

Pregunta para los niños: ¿Cuál es un don especial que Dios les ha dado para compartir con sus amigos o compañeros de clase?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: Jesús comenzó el ministerio con el estímulo de su madre. ¿Quién te incita a orar, a ir a la iglesia y a realizar buenas acciones?

Pregunta para los adultos: Dios llena a cada uno de nosotros con gracia (milagros) y dones. ¿Cuál es una gracia (milagro) o don que han compartido con sus familias?

End of **Diocesan Sesquicentennial** celebration sellout of **Catholic Priests of the Diocese of**

Wilmington, on the 150th Anniversary of its founding. A great gift for Christmas or birthdays in the New Year. On sale now for \$15 (included S&H) Available at Angel Crossing

Store in Elsmere(302-654-3232) or by contacting petermanpublication@gmail.com or 302-225-7498.



Saint Thomas More is now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Affordable, quality, Catholic education!

A Catholic high school education at St. Thomas More Academy does not have to be out of reach solely for financial reasons. STMA families are eligible for both local and diocesan needs-based financial aid. Apply for aid online at <https://factsmgt.com/parent-resources/grant-and-aid/> If you are interested in spending a day at STMA or learning more about STMA, we encourage you to visit us in person or through our website www.saintmore.org

Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?

Find out more about the priesthood at www.diocesanpriest.com

Find out more about the religious life: religiouslife.com. Let us help you to discover God's plan for your life. E-mail: vocations@cdow.org or Call us: (302) 573-3113 today!



Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples who can help a couple re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille can help heal a marriage, as it has for tens of thousands of couples throughout the world. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 8-10 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.



History of the Diocese of Wilmington

Get your copy today of the Illustrated History of the Diocese of Wilmington. Cost is only \$30 for this hard cover—glossy paper—336 pages, full color throughout. Stop by the Parish Office for your copy today. Also available is a soft cover graphic book for only \$12.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019!

Let's think warm!! **ROAR** will get you ready to go! Where Life is Wild and God is Good! Let Ms. Alicia or Meg Haass know if you are interested in helping with VBS this year! Meeting to be announced in upcoming weeks.



COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 20 DE ENERO, 2019.

Queridos feligreses,

Bueno, el fin de semana pasado el centro de Delaware y la costa este de Maryland experimentaron su primera tormenta de nieve del Año Nuevo. No fue una tormenta de nieve monumental, pero fue suficiente para cerrar nuestras escuelas por el día. Y así, ahora, con la escasez del pan, la leche y el papel higiénico, en los supermercados, y las carreteras cubiertas de sal como un Pretzel de Filadelfia y la gente cantando "Bebé, hace frío afuera, sabemos que el invierno realmente y verdaderamente está aquí. Diciembre, nos dio un clima agradable pero, ¡, enero vino como un león sin juegos eso significa negocio! Muchas personas podrán lamentar que la nieve puede ser fastidiosa, pero al mismo tiempo, también es hermoso. También vale la pena señalar que las Escrituras no guardan silencio sobre el tema de la nieve. La Biblia tiene una ventisca de referencias a esa material blanco. Entonces, mientras el clima es espantoso, las Escrituras son tan encantadoras (y perspicaces). Y así, aquí hay una gran cantidad de textos de las Escrituras relacionados con la nieve y algunos de mis pensamientos, espero que no sean demasiado precarios, sobre ellos:

1. En Daniel (3: 67-70), el Profeta cuenta la historia de tres jóvenes (Sidrac, Misac y Abdénago) *siendo echados en un horno de fuego ardiente por Nabucodonosor, rey de Babilonia, por negarse a inclinarse ante la imagen del rey. Mientras estos tres jóvenes se cuecen al calor del horno, le alaban a Dios que diciendo: "Frío y hielo, bendigan al Señor; alabarle y exaltarle sobre todo eternamente... escarcha y nieve, bendigan al Señor; Alabadle y exaltarle sobre todo para siempre. El hielo y la nieve bendigan al Señor; alabarle y exaltarle sobre todo para siempre"*. Los jóvenes se salvaron de la muerte en el horno por el poder de Dios. Entonces, aunque no te guste el hielo y la nieve, esta escritura nos recuerda que su belleza y su presencia sirven para alabar al Señor. Me imagino que te encontrarás resbalándote en el hielo y conduciendo en carreteras nevadas este invierno, también puedes estar teniendo una conversación con Dios sobre este asunto, pero puede que no sean palabras de alabanzas. Si ese es el caso, piense en los tres jóvenes que están en el horno, y siéntase inspirado con las palabras de alabanza.

2. El Libro de Proverbios (25:13) nos informa que *"Al igual que la frescura de la nieve en el calor de la siega, tal es un mensajero fiel para quien lo envía"*. Reflexiona sobre el alma de su maestro. "Del frío de santa Hannah, hace mucho frío "del pasado lunes por la noche y el martes, y de las varias pulgadas de nieve que hemos aprendido acerca de lo "que es el frío", y no en la década de 1970. Sentido del mundo. Pero a pesar del frío y la

nieve seguimos, continuamos! El clima hace lo suyo, y nosotros lo soportamos. En medio del invierno más frío, nuestros corazones arden con el amor de Dios. Al darnos, me atrevo a decir "Días felices", incluso en medio de un clima difícil.

3. Del Libro Job del Trabajo Sufrido (5: 9-11, en parte) escuchamos: *" A Él, que hace cosas grandes e insondables, maravillas innumerables. El derrama la lluvia sobre la tierra y le dice a la nieve cae sobre la tierra y va a encerrar a toda la humanidad en el interior. Maestros y estudiantes tomen nota: este pasaje nos muestra el origen divino de los días de nieve ; Dios hace que caiga la nieve (" hace caer la nieve sobre la tierra). Los niños no puede ir a la escuela.(encierra a toda la humanidad en el interior ")*. Entonces, cuando vea esos listados de "Escuelas Cerradas" en WBOC, Dios nos da ese tiempo, esos tiempos inesperados, para que podamos pasar tiempo con nuestras familias o simplemente un día tranquilo adentro.

4. En una vena similar, el Libro de Los Proverbios 31: 10,21 nos aconseja que, *"cuando uno encuentra una esposa digna, su valor está mucho más allá de las perlas. Ella no teme a la nieve por su hogar; Todos ellos están doblemente vestidos. "Para todos ustedes, esposos con esposas que tienen niños en edad escolar, aquí hay una escritura que pone en perspectiva todas esas mañanas de nieve psico-locas. ¡Esa digna esposa "no teme la nieve"*, la trata con firmeza y directamente!

5. El Libro de la Sabiduría (16:22), en su sagacidad, señala: *"Sin embargo, la nieve y el hielo soportaron el fuego y no se derritieron, para que supieran que sus enemigos eran consumidos por un fuego que ardía en el granizo. Cada año, encuentro calles en Dover y la carretera cerca de Marydel que este pasaje me recuerda. Conoces la carretera de los que estoy hablando. En todos los demás lugares, la nieve y el hielo han desaparecido y, sin embargo, recorres esa calle y descubres que estás en la tierra que el tiempo olvidó. Parece que la edad de hielo golpeó allí, y la nieve y el hielo se mantienen. El punto de la historia: Los dones de Dios son indestructibles contra las fuerzas del enemigo infernal y diabólico. ¡Él nos da la habilidad de prevalecer por su gracia!*

6. Finalmente, en el Primer Libro de los Macabeos (13: 21-22), *"Entonces los de la fortaleza mandaron mensajeros a Trifón para que viniera pronto en su ayuda por el desierto y les trajera alimentos. Trifón preparó toda su caballería para ir, pero aquella noche cayó mucha nieve y, por esta razón, no fue."* Entonces, se fue a Galaad. "¡Esos pobres tipos en la ciudadela! ¡Incluso con los esfuerzos de Trypho, no pudieron obtener su pan y leche (y papel higiénico)! No se detuvieron en el Redners antes, y por lo tanto no estaban preparados. Entonces, la próxima vez que el cielo sea una "sombra brumosa del invierno" y se predice 1/8 de

pulgada de nieve, y usted ve la línea de compras locas en Redners, considere que tal vez esas personas leyeron este pasaje de las escrituras y están jugado a lo seguro.

Mientras escribo esta columna el martes por la tarde, 15 de enero, el informe meteorológico del próximo fin de semana parece nevoso y (en palabras de la banda de rock Foreigner) "Frío como el hielo". Si esto es correcto, y la nieve comienza a caer como los ratings de la Serie Mundial. Cuando no hay ningún equipo del Este envuelto, entonces podría ser un buen momento para reflexionar sobre estas escrituras, que son tanto eternas como oportunas. Podría ser un buen momento para recordar la mano de Dios en la belleza misma de la creación y en nuestra vida diaria. Deja que caiga la nieve, deja que caiga la nieve, **deja que caiga la nieve!** (Y si no hay nieva, culpa al Weather Channel, ¡pero por favor, por favor, Alaba a Dios!)

Tuyo en Cristo

James Lentini

Párroco.